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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/756,434	01/08/2001	Eiichi Hayashi	MOC03 P362	5507
277	7590	12/15/2004	EXAMINER	
PRICE HENEVELD COOPER DEWITT & LITTON, LLP			LEE, CHEUKFAN	
695 KENMOOR, S.E.				
P O BOX 2567			ART UNIT	
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501			PAPER NUMBER	
			2622	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/756,434

Applicant(s)

HAYASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Cheukfan Lee

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 January 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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1. Claims 1-7 are pending. Claim 1 is independent.
2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morikawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,537,225) and Applicant's admitted prior art.

Regarding claim 1, Morikawa et al. discloses an image reading apparatus (image processor) (Fig. 10) in which an attachment of a linear light source lamp (25) is easily removed for replacement. When scanning a stationary original placed on a document glass, the scanning carriage (174) having a casing containing the lamp (25) moves in the subscanning direction of the apparatus. At the time for attaching or detaching the light source attachment (Fig. 9), the scanning carriage is positioned at a replacement position outside the document glass for stationary original, as shown in Fig. 10, i.e., outside a range required for scanning the original placed on the document glass. With the top part (176) above the scanning carriage (174) lifted, the light source lamp attachment is removed from and attached to the carriage (174) (Fig. 9 and 10) (col. 15, line 55 – col. 16, line 4).

The removable light source attachment includes a frame (172) provided with lamp sockets (171) of the lamp (25), the frame (172) having portions (173) to be

inserted into holes (175) of the carriage. Therefore, in Morikawa et al., the light source attachment is detachably attached to the carriage (174).

Although Morikawa et al. does not explicitly state that the lamp (25) with sockets is detachably attached to the attachment frame (172), one of ordinary skill in the art would have realized that the lamp (25) is removed from the frame (172) at the time of lamp replacement and the frame remains for attachment with a new lamp since Morikawa et al. discloses removing and replacing the light source lamp (col. 16, lines 1-4).

Morikawa et al. differs from the claimed invention in that Morikawa et al. does not disclose a lamp bracket to which the light source lamp (25) is detachably attached. However, employing a bracket for receiving a linear light source lamp in a original image reading apparatus (image processor) is not a novel feature as discussed by Applicant in the prior art discussion section on page 2, lines 7-9 of Applicant's specification. In the admitted prior art, the bracket is attached to the carriage.

With the teaching of the bracket by Applicant, one of ordinary skill in the art would have realized that one kind of benefit of employing the bracket to receive the light source lamp socket(s) is to protect the light source lamp and the sockets.

Since in Morikawa et al. the light source lamp (25) is detachably attached from the removable frame (172) as discussed above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a socket bracket of Applicant's admitted prior art and attach the bracket to the frame (172) of Morikawa et al. to receive the light source lamp socket(s) such that the light source lamp (25) is

detachably attached to the bracket, and the combination of the bracket and frame (172) is detachably attached to the carriage, in order to protect the light source lamp and lamp socket.

Regarding claim 2, as discussed above, the replacement position beyond the scanning range for scanning a stationary original is shown in Fig. 10 of Morikawa et al. The replacement opening, which is above the carriage (174) at that position of the carriage shown in Fig. 10, is facing the replacement position. The (obvious) lamp bracket is attached to and detached from the carriage (174) via the replacement opening.

Regarding claims 3 and 4, the combination of lamp bracket and frame is detached from the carriage (174) by an operation from above the carriage (Fig. 10 of Morikawa et al.).

Regarding claims 5-7, though Morikawa et al. does not explicitly disclose a cable and a cable connected to the light source lamp (25) and a connector for the cable, such features are usual inherent for light source lamp like the lamp of Morikawa et al. The features are also discussed in Applicant's prior art discussion (page 2, lines 15-20). With the structure of Morikawa et al. (Fig. 10), one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized the relatively large replacement opening above the scanning carriage (174) relative to the light source lamp (25) or the light source attachment shown in Fig. 9, which allows manipulating of components through the opening. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to perform the attachment and

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detachment of a connector for the cable from above the carriage (174) in order to allow free movement of the light source attachment during light source replacement.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Boyd et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,038,028) discloses an optical scanner aperture and light source assembly, the assembly having a socket (194), independent sockets (198 and 200), and a flexible power cable connected to the socket (194) (col. 4, line 55).

Hayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,704,126) discloses an image processor having a mounting structure for two carriages.

Nakao (U.S. Patent No. 4,692,795) discloses a color image readout device with detachable light source unit.

Nakahara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,563,608) discloses a document reading apparatus and light source assembly.

Takahashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,549,743) discloses an image reading device (abstract).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheukfan Lee whose telephone number is (703) 305-4867. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cheukfan Lee
Dec. 2, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheukfan Lee", is written over a printed name. The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "C".